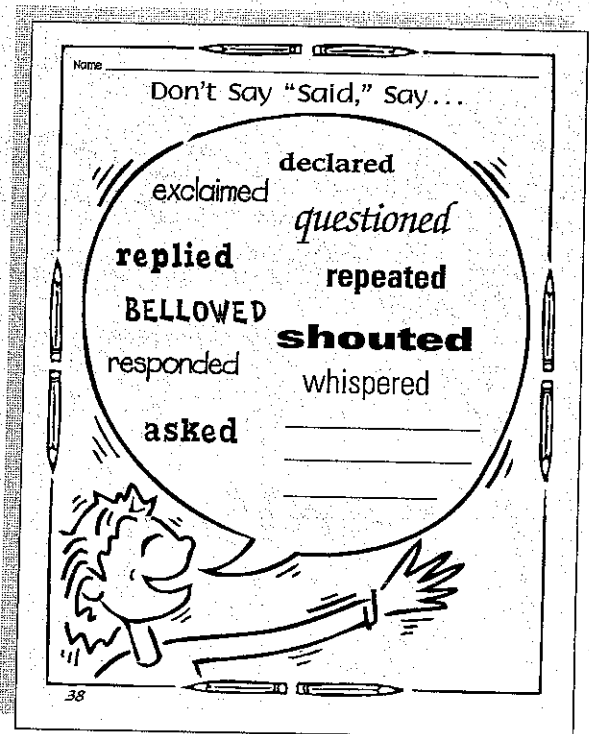


Mini-Lesson 6 Don't Say ...

After punctuation, the next skills lessons are on word choice and using a dictionary and thesaurus. To begin, I hand out copies of the Don't Say "Said" reproducible (page 38). After students have studied my example, I have them work in pairs and assign each pair an overused word. (With this activity, you can target words you find your students overusing.) Each pair then completes the Don't Say "____" reproducible (page 39) by finding as many alternatives to the word as possible. Students share their finished product with the class and then we post the results for students to use as a source for new words.



Additional Vocabulary-Building Activities

A twist on the Don't Say "Said" activity is to have students create I'm Talking posters, which feature an overused word and possible synonyms. For example:

I'm talking good!
I'm talking nice.
I'm talking excellent, fine, likeable,
Delightful!
I'm talking swell, keen, dandy, great,
I'm talking brilliant, superb, glorious,
Impressive!
I'm talking splendid, and pleasing,
I'm talking good!

Another vocabulary-stretching activity is to have students brainstorm words for each of the five senses. An example might include:

Sight: shimmering, glaring, hazy
Touch: dull, sharp, soft
Taste: tangy, bitter, savory
Hearing: hushed, ear-splitting, thunderous
Smell: pungent, aromatic, fragrant

Name _____

Don't Say "Said," Say ...

declared

exclaimed

questioned

replied

repeated

BELLOWED

shouted

responded

whispered

asked



Name _____

Don't Say " _____ ," Say ...

